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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/917,294	07/26/2001	Kevin J. Dowling	C1104/7075	8108

25181 7590 02/03/2006

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EXAMINER

VO, HUYEN X

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2655

DATE MAILED: 02/03/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Supplemental  
Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/917,294

Examiner

Huyen X. Vo

Applicant(s)

DOWLING ET AL.

Art Unit

2655

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/23/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-28.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ ~~Notice of Reasons for Allowance (PTO-892)~~
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 12/5/2005
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

**WAYNE YOUNG**  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

1. Claims 1-28 are allowed over prior art of record. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Matulich et al. (US 6188986) disclose a voice activated device for producing control signals in response to speech is self-contained and requires no additional software or hardware. The device may be incorporated into a housing that replaces a wall switch that is connected to an AC circuit. An alternate housing is portable and includes a jack that plugs into and lies flush against a standard AC utility outlet, and at least one plug for accepting an AC jack of any electronic product or appliance. The device acts as a control interface between utility power and connected electrical devices by connecting or disconnecting power to the electrical devices based on speech commands. Morrison (US 6241362) teaches a lighted display device includes three light emitting diodes therein, with each of the diodes transmitting a different one of the three subtractive primary colors of red, yellow, and blue when electrical power is applied thereto. The three LEDs are capable of collectively emitting any of the colors of the visual spectrum, depending upon the relative electrical power, which is applied separately and collectively to them. The present lighted device includes circuitry for automatically varying the relative intensity of each of the LEDs over a predetermined period of time, resulting in the LEDs collectively emitting a broad spectrum of gradually changing colors over the time period. The circuitry may be adjusted to provide for the transmission of a single color by any one or two of the LEDs if so desired, as well. The present lighted display device provides for the display of

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various translucent art objects and the like, with the varying colors emitted therethrough providing a wide variety of interest as the color and appearance of the displayed object varies. Both Matulich et al. and Morrison fail to specifically disclose the main purpose of the claimed invention, that is using voice signal to control the color of the light emitted by the lighting device, and the step of combining two different colors emitted by two different light devices to form a third color that is different from the first and second colors. Furthermore, it would have not been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify Matulich et al. and/or Morrison in order to obtain the claimed invention. Therefore, claims 1-28 are allowed over prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Huyen X. Vo whose telephone number is 571-272-7631. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9-5:30.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wayne Young can be reached on 571-272-7582. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

12/22/2005

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WAYNE YOUNG  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER